

# Book of Revelation

---

Book of Revelation is the last book of New Testament in Western Tradition. Book of Revelation is not part of Aramaic New Testament known as Aramaic Peshitta. The Aramaic Peshitta contains only 22 books and excludes 2nd Peter, 2nd John, 3rd John, Jude, and Revelation <sup>[1]</sup>.

Book of Revelation was one of the five books that the Church of the East never received from Apostles.

"With reference to....the originality of the Peshitta text, as the Patriarch and Head of the Holy Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East, we wish to state, that the Church of the East received the scriptures from the hands of the blessed Apostles themselves in the Aramaic original, the language spoken by our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and that the Peshitta is the text of the Church of the East which has come down from the Biblical times without any change or revision."

Mar Eshai Shimun, by Grace, Catholicos Patriarch of the East, April 5, 1957 <sup>[1]</sup>.

But this is understandable, because John (the writer of Book of Revelation) was writing to seven churches at Turkish regions <sup>[2]</sup> - Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea <sup>[3]</sup>.

Aramaic NT manuscript Crawford Codex contains Revelation in Aramaic <sup>[4]</sup>.

## Differences between Greek NT Revelation and Aramaic NT Revelation(in Crawford Codex)

---

There are several differences between Revelation found in Greek NT manuscripts and Aramaic Revelation found in Aramaic NT manuscript Crawford Codex.

Below are some of the differences.

1) Unlike Greek NT manuscripts for Revelation, Aramaic Revelation (in Crawford Codex) has this title - "The Revelation which came to John The Evangelist from God in Patmos the island to which he was exiled by Nero Caesar." <sup>[5]</sup>.

2) Revelation 11:2 (NIV Translation from Greek) - "But exclude **the outer court**; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months."

Revelation 11:2 (Translation of Aramaic Revelation) <sup>[6]</sup> - "And **the inner court** of the Temple leave out and do not measure it, because that is given to the Gentiles, and they will trample The Holy City 42 months.

Notes <sup>[7]</sup> - "This reading (the inner court) is very different from the Greek reading, which has **"the outer court."** If The Revelation was written in Nero's reign (AD 54-67), as I have discussed in the intro. to Revelation, then this passage about The Temple still standing makes sense, whereas if the conventional date of AD 95 is assigned, it makes no sense, since the Temple was destroyed AD 70. Accepting the early date means this verse is a prophesy about the siege and destruction of the Temple, and this verse in the Crawford is especially shocking in that it says the very inner court of the Jews would be destroyed and that there would be a 42 month (3 and a half years) siege of Jerusalem, which is exactly what happened in AD 67 till AD 70. Josephus recorded it and was there when it happened. The outer court was for the Gentiles anyway, so the Greek reading is pointless."

3) Revelation 9:11 (NIV) - "They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer)."

But instead of "in Hebrew is Abaddon", Aramaic Revelation (in Crawford Codex) has "whose name in Awraith is Awadu" <sup>[8]</sup>. Instead of "in Greek is Apollyon", Aramaic Revelation has "in Aramait, his name is Shara (also written as Shareh)."

Both Awadu and Shara are Aramaic words. Awadu (also written as Avadu) in Judean Aramaic is the command-"Work" and Shara (also written as Shareh) has several possibilities, mostly likely being, "Be Strong" or "Be faithful." <sup>[9]</sup>.

The word "Awraith" can mean Aramaic or Hebrew <sup>[10]</sup>.

In first century, the spoken language of Hebrews was Aramaic. When they say Hebrew (or Awraith) in New Testament, they are referring to certain Aramaic words commonly used by Hebrews (in Judea, Idumea, Egypt) and the word "Aramait" refers to certain Aramaic words commonly used by Hebrews and Arameans (in Galilee, Lebanon, Syria, and other Northern Aramaic speaking regions). <sup>[11]</sup>.

Aramaic was the spoken language of Hebrews until Hebrew was revived by False Messiah Simon Bar Kokhba during Bar Kokhba revolt (132-135 AD) <sup>[12]</sup>.

4) Revelation 16:16 (NIV) - "Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon."

But in Aramaic Revelation (Revelation 16:16) of Crawford Codex, it says "in Awraith, Magdo." <sup>[13]</sup>. Magdo is mentioned in Matthew 15:39 of Aramaic Peshitta <sup>[14]</sup> while it is called Dalmanutha in Mark 8:10 <sup>[15]</sup>. It is believed that the location called "Magdo" by Hebrews (living in Judea and in

Idumea) was called "Dalmanutha" by Hebrews and Arameans (living in Galilee, Syria, and Other Northern Aramaic speaking regions). Sometimes, the places can have two or more different names. For Example, St. Petersburg was also called Leningrad while Volgograd was called Stalingrad.

5) Revelation 20:5 (NIV) - "(The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended)."

This verse is found in Greek NT manuscripts with the exception of Greek NT manuscript Codex Sinaiticus. This verse is not in Codex Sinaiticus [\[16\]](#).

This verse is not found in Aramaic Revelation of Crawford Codex [\[17\]](#).

6) Revelation 22:13 (NIV) - "I am the **Alpha** and **the Omega**, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Revelation 22:13 [\[18\]](#) - "I am **Alap** and I am **Tau**, The First and The Last, The Origin and The Fulfillment."

#### 7) **Suffer or tolerate? - Revelation 2:20**

The KJV says: "Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou **sufferest** that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols."

The NIV says: "Nevertheless, I have this against you: You **tolerate** that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols."

Versions that say suffer or a variation thereof: ASV, Douay-Rheims, Geneva, KJ21, KJV, Rotherham, Webster, Wycliffe, YLT.

Versions that say tolerate, let alone or a variation thereof: AMP, ESV, GodsWord, Holman, ISV, NASB, NIV, NIV-UK, RSV, TEV, Weymouth.

Now, it just so happens that the Aramaic root "Shbq" in Aramaic Revelation (Crawford Codex) can be translated as both [\[19\]](#).

#### 8) **Sit or Dwell - Revelation 14:6?**

The KJV says: "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,"

The WYC says: "And I saw another angel, flying by the middle of heaven, having an everlasting gospel [having the everlasting gospel], that he should preach to men sitting on the earth, and on each folk [and upon all folk], and lineage, and language, and people;"

Versions that say dwell or a variation thereof: ASV, ESV, KJ21, KJV, LITV, MKJV, NKJV, Rotherham, RSV.

Aramaic verb itab can mean "sit" or "dwell."

Versions that say sit or a variation thereof: Douay-Rheims, WYC <sup>[20]</sup>.

## Books and Multimedia

---

More Differences between Greek NT and Aramaic Revelation can be seen here

- <http://web.archive.org/web/20120819185031/http://ellhn.e-e-e.gr/books/assets/NewTestament.pdf>

Aramaic Revelation in Crawford Codex is available here <sup>[21]</sup>.

Information about Babylon the Great in Book of Revelation can be read here <sup>[22]</sup>.

## References

---

1. ↑ <sup>10 11</sup> <http://www.peshitta.org/initial/peshitta.html>
2. ↑ [http://5wise.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/seven\\_churches\\_revelation.gif](http://5wise.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/seven_churches_revelation.gif)
3. ↑ Revelation 1:11
4. ↑ <http://www.dukhrana.com/crawford/>
5. ↑ Book "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 363
6. ↑ Book "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 378
7. ↑ Book "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 378 about Revelation 11:2 in Crawford Codex
8. ↑ Book "The Apocalypse of St. John, in a Syriac version hitherto unknown (1897)", Page. 12
9. ↑ Book "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 376
10. ↑ Book "Lexicon to the Syriac New Testament" by William Jennings, Page 158
11. ↑ [http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Language\\_of\\_Jesus\\_Christ](http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Language_of_Jesus_Christ) & Book "A Compendious Syriac Dictionary", Page 29

12. [↑ http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Language\\_of\\_Jesus\\_Christ](http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Language_of_Jesus_Christ)
13. [↑](#) Book "The Apocalypse of St. John, in a Syriac version hitherto unknown (1897)", Page. 20
14. [↑ http://www.peshitta.org/pdf/Mattich15.pdf](http://www.peshitta.org/pdf/Mattich15.pdf)
15. [↑ http://www.peshitta.org/pdf/Marqsch8.pdf](http://www.peshitta.org/pdf/Marqsch8.pdf)
16. [↑ http://www.jacksonsnnyder.com/yah/manuscript-library/Codex%20Sinaiticus.pdf](http://www.jacksonsnnyder.com/yah/manuscript-library/Codex%20Sinaiticus.pdf)
17. [↑](#) Book "The Apocalypse of St. John, in a Syriac version hitherto unknown (1897)", Page. 25
18. [↑](#) "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 391
19. [↑ http://ellhn.e-e-e.gr/books/assets/NewTestament.pdf](http://ellhn.e-e-e.gr/books/assets/NewTestament.pdf), PAGE - 20 TO 21
20. [↑ http://ellhn.e-e-e.gr/books/assets/NewTestament.pdf](http://ellhn.e-e-e.gr/books/assets/NewTestament.pdf), PAGE 37-38
21. [↑ https://archive.org/details/AramaicRevelationCrawfordCodexInJohnGwynnsBook](https://archive.org/details/AramaicRevelationCrawfordCodexInJohnGwynnsBook)
22. [↑ http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Babylon\\_the\\_Great\\_in\\_Revelation](http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Babylon_the_Great_in_Revelation)

Category: [Bible](#)

## Babylon the Great in Revelation

---

Revelation 17:3-9 (NIV) - Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. 5 The name written on her forehead was a mystery:

BABYLON THE GREAT

THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES

AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

6 I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus.

When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. 7 Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns. 8 The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come.

9 "This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. 10 They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for only a little while. 11 The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction."

## The Identification of Babylon the Great

---

Based on the scriptures, Babylon the Great is Jerusalem. All of the major information are provided below.

1) **Revelation 17:4 - "The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls."**

In Exodus, God commanded that the priests' vestments be made with purple and scarlet yarn and decorated with gold and precious stones such as jacinth, topaz, emerald, etc. <sup>[1]</sup>.

2) **Revelation 17:6 - "I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus."**

Jesus Christ tells that **Jerusalem killed the prophets and stone those sent by God** <sup>[2]</sup>. In terms of killing prophets, Jesus Christ points out that for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem <sup>[3]</sup>.

Jesus Christ tells the scribes and the Pharisees how they testify against themselves that they are the descendants of those who murdered the prophets <sup>[4]</sup>. Jesus Christ tells the scribes and the pharisees that he will send to them prophets and sages and teachers. Some of them they will kill and crucify; others they will flog in their synagogues and pursue from town to town <sup>[5]</sup>. For additional infos about Judean persecution of God's holy people, check this link <sup>[6]</sup>

3) Revelation 17:9 - "The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits."

Jerusalem was built upon seven mountains. The **seven mountains** upon which Jerusalem was built are Mount Zion, Mount Ophel, Mount Moriah, Mount Bezetha, Mount Acra, Mount Gareb, and Mount Goath <sup>[7]</sup>.

4) Revelation 17:10 - "They are also seven kings. **Five have fallen**, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for only a little while."

It must be noted that Roman emperors ruled the land of Israel in first century AD. John 19:15 (NIV) - "But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. **"We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.**"

Flavius Josephus clearly points out that Julius Caesar was the first emperor of Rome, followed by Augustus; Tiberius; Caius (Caligula); Claudius; and the sixth emperor was Nero (Antiquities, book 18:2:2). Nero Caesar who assumed imperial power upon **the death of the fifth emperor, Claudius**, in October, A.D. 54 <sup>[8]</sup>.

It must be noted that Aramaic Revelation (in Crawford Codex) has this title - "The Revelation which came to John The Evangelist from God in Patmos the island to which he was exiled by Nero Caesar." <sup>[9]</sup>.

The information about Second Coming of Jesus Christ can be read here<sup>[10]</sup>.

## References

---

1. ↑ Exodus 28:1-28, 33 & Exodus 39:1-21, 24, 29
2. ↑ Luke 13:34, Matthew 23:37
3. ↑ Luke 13:33
4. ↑ Matthew 23:31
5. ↑ Matthew 23:34
6. ↑ [http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Zecharias\\_the\\_son\\_of\\_Baruch](http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Zecharias_the_son_of_Baruch)
7. ↑ <http://www.ecclesia.org/truth/whore.html>
8. ↑ The Jewish Unveiling of Revelation and the End - Page 83
9. ↑ Book "The Original Aramaic New Testament in Plain English", Page. 363
10. ↑ [http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Second\\_Coming\\_of\\_Jesus\\_Christ](http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Second_Coming_of_Jesus_Christ)

Category: Bible